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5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2100
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Telephone: (323) 934-2300
Facsimile: (323) 934-0202

DELIVER TO: Examiner Joseph H. Nguyen, Art Unit 2815COMPANY: United States Patent and Trademark OfficeFAX NUMBER: (703) 872-9319FROM: Ross SchmittDATE: November 12, 2003TOTAL NO. OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS PAGE): 14SUBJECT : Amendment After FinalU.S. Application No. 09/768,904Lap Wai Chow, et al."Integrated Circuits Protected Against Reverse Engineering ..."Our Ref: B-3894 618029-8**RECEIVED**
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OFFICIAL**REMARKS:**

Examiner Nguyen:

Enclosed is a formal response to the pending Final Office Action comprising:

Amendment After Final - 12 pages

Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form - 1 page

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Reply under 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2815
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lap Wai Chow, et al.)	Examiner: Nguyen, Joseph II.
)	Art Unit: 2815
)	
Patent Appl: 09/768,904)	Our Ref: B-3964 618029-8
)	
Filed: January 24, 2001)	Date: November 12, 2003
)	
For: "INTEGRATED CIRCUITS ")	Re: <i>Amendment After Final</i>
PROTECTED AGAINST REVERSE)	
ENGINEERING AND METHOD FOR)	
FABRICATING THE SAME USING AS)	
APPARENT METAL CONTACT LINE)	
TERMINATING ON FIELD OXIDE")	

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Final Official Action, mailed September 10, 2003. The amendments proposed in this response are based on a telephone interview conducted with the Examiner on November 12, 2003. The Applicants submit that these amendments may be properly entered under 37 C.F.R. 116 as putting the claims in better form for consideration. A statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action is presented in this paper as required under 37 C.F.R. 1.133(b). The Applicants are requesting expedited processing of this Amendment After Final as described in MPEP 714.13. **All remarks herein are made without prejudice.**

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.